

February 23, 1951.

House File 537

Passed on File. By MOTOR VEHICLES, COMMERCE AND TRADE.

Passed House, Date

Vote: AyesNays

Passed Senate, Date

Vote: AyesNays

Approved

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend chapter three hundred twenty-one (321), Code 1950, relating to motor vehicles and law of road.

*Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:*

1Section 1. Section three hundred twenty-one point two

2hundred sixty-six (321.266), Code 1950, is hereby amended by

3inserting after the word “person” in line three (3) the

4following: “or total property damage to an apparent extent

5of fifty dollars or more”.

EXPLANATION OF H. F. 537

Our present statute provides that a written report of a motor vehicle accident involving “total property damage to an apparent extent of fifty dollars or more” shall be reported to the state department of public safety within twenty-four hours after such accident occurs. However no such provision is made for the reporting of such an accident to local authorities (except in some first class cities) unless some person is injured or killed in the accident. As a result peace officers within whose jurisdiction the accident has occurred, often have no opportunity to investigate an accident or its causes until long after the physical evidence has been removed or destroyed and the witnesses scattered. This bill will require the reporting of accidents resulting in apparent property damage of fifty dollars or more to local authorities in the same manner as is now required in personal injury and death cases.